

From: Bill
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have followed the issues surrounding the MicroSoft anti-trust suit and related information since the early 90's. I feel that this company, MicroSoft, has long been allowed to terrorize the entire computer/electronic industry. This has to be stopped! There has to be limits on what one powerful company can do to bend the will of independent manufacturers and citizens.

MS seems to use every legal trick in the book to prevent competition with their software. Classifying the license agreements, as to how OEM's can install boot-loaders on systems that they manufacture and sell, as intellectual property is absurd. Altering commodity protocols for the benefit of locking users to their software is absurd! Restricting an OEM as to how and when they can sell a naked PC is absurd. I do not use Windows! When I purchased my most recent PC, that was destined to run Linux exclusively, I was forced to also purchase Windows 98SE. I did not even receive a usable version of Win98, if I was to ever choose to use that software. I instead received a recovery disk which is mostly worthless. People call it the MicroSoft tax. I can not think of a more appropriate term!

MicroSoft, in my opinion, is the worst kind of monopolizing threat to global Internet stability. They repeatedly use market share to crush competition and options, forcing their average quality and usually flawed software on the masses. If Microsoft is allowed to continue unrestrained, I think this will have a long term, devastating effect on both the global economy and security of the Internet.

An electric power provider would never be allowed to manipulate, with embrace and extend tactics, secret/proprietary electricity that only worked with their devices. Nor would they be allowed to slowly corrupt that moving standard to eliminate all competition. MicroSoft should not be allowed to do the exact same thing with computers, electronic technology and the Internet.

MicroSoft must be restrained and controlled as they have proven time and time again that they cannot act responsibly! They do not innovate, they destroy and rename the lack of options innovation!!!!

Best Regards,
Bill